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Timothy H. Van Dyke, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Bianchi, *et al.*  
Application No: 09/704,299  
Filed: 11/1/2000  
Title: CERVICAL TAPERED DOWEL  
Docket No: RTI-106R

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To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the specification:

Please add the following new text on ~~page 1 as paragraph one of the specification:~~

"Cross-reference to Related Application

This application claims the benefit under 35 USC § 119(e) of Provisional Application No: 60/186,312 filed March 2, 2000."

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